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## COUNTRY PROFILE | President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)

# TANZANIA

MAY 2006



### At a glance: Malaria in Tanzania

Population: 37.4 million

Life expectancy at birth: 45 years (men), 46 years (women)<sup>1</sup>

Reported malaria cases (2003): 10.7 million<sup>2</sup>

Under-5 mortality rate: 165/1,000 or approximately 1 in 6 children<sup>3</sup>

### Background

In Tanzania, 93 percent of the population is at risk for malaria. The disease is responsible for more than one-third of deaths among children under age five and for up to one-fifth of deaths among pregnant women.<sup>4</sup> In 2000, 55 percent of hospital admissions in under-five children were due to malaria. Up to 80 percent of Tanzania's malaria deaths occur among these children.

Tanzania is one of three first-round target countries benefiting from the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), a five-year \$1.2 billion initiative led by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), in conjunction with the Department of Health and Human Services (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), the Department of State, and the White House. PMI's long-term goal is to cut malaria deaths by 50 percent in 15 African countries by providing lifesaving services, supplies, and medicines to 85 percent of those most vulnerable to malaria – children under five years of age and pregnant women.

In support of Tanzania's Ministry of Health and in coordination with international and national development organizations, nongovernmental organizations, faith-based organizations, and the private sector, the Initiative supports four key tools to prevent and treat malaria:

- Spraying with insecticides ("indoor residual spraying," or IRS) in communities
- Insecticide-treated bednets (ITNs)
- Lifesaving drugs
- Treatment for pregnant women ("intermittent preventive treatment," or IPT)

### 2006 Results to Date

- **ITNs:** Beginning in mid-December 2005, PMI distributed 130,000 free long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) through local public clinics on Zanzibar and nearby Pemba Island, more than doubling existing coverage rates of pregnant women and children under age five. This distribution was accompanied by a communications campaign to educate the population on the proper use of the LLINs. In total, more than 200,000 people are covered by this campaign.
- **Mosquito larval control:** PMI is providing chemical treatment of mosquito breeding sites in the capital, Dar es Salaam, protecting approximately 128,000 people in the area.

<sup>1</sup> CIA World Fact Book

<sup>2</sup> 2005 World Malaria Report

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF

<sup>4</sup> FY06 Country Action Plan

## PMI Funding

In fiscal year 2006, PMI set aside \$11.5 million in funding for malaria prevention and treatment in Tanzania.

## Upcoming Activities

- **Training on artemisinin-based combination therapy drugs (ACTs).** The initial shipment of PMI-funded ACTs for Tanzania (about 370,000 doses) is expected to arrive in August. PMI, in collaboration with partners, will support the training of Tanzanian health workers on their use and the use of ACTs purchased by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which are due to arrive in late 2006.
- **IRS on Zanzibar.** Beginning in August 2006, PMI will support the spraying of communities with insecticides to cover the entire population of the island of Zanzibar, benefiting an estimated 1 million people. PMI support includes purchase of insecticide and equipment, training of spray teams, logistics, and informing communities about spraying activities.